

THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES TO SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS BY HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUCHESS OF KENT.

The presentation by Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent to the students of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation, who had successfully completed the International Courses held at Bedford College for Women (University of London) in conjunction with the College of Nursing on June 26th, was a most interesting and successful function.

The Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley, G.B.E., C.B., LL.B., Treasurer of the Foundation, presided with his usual geniality and irrepressible humour, and those present on the platform included members of the Committee of Management of the F.N.I.F., of the Organisation Committee of Bedford College, and others, amongst them The Lady Mary Hope, in attendance on the Duchess of Kent, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Hon. President, and Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, D.B.E., R.R.C., President F.N.I.F., Miss G. E. M. Jebb, M.A. (Cantab.), Principal of Bedford College, Miss E. M. Musson, C.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D., Chairman of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, Mlle. Mechelynck (Belgium), Miss Daisy Bridges, Sister, St. Thomas's Hospital, Miss D. S. Coode, President of the College of Nursing, Mrs. Cecil Carter, League of Red Cross Societies, Mrs. Rome, British Red Cross Society, Dr. H. L. Eason, C.B., C.M.G., Vice-Chancellor of the University of London, Sir Ernest Graham Little, M.P., Sir Harold Fawcus, Mr. Ernest Swift, Professor Stebbing, Colonel Parkinson, Mrs. Edkins.

Sir Arthur Stanley said that he was particularly glad to greet Her Royal Highness in the name of those present. Many illustrious ladies were present who had taken part in the Presentation of Certificates on previous occasions, but none had been welcomed more gladly and heartily than Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent. She had not been a member of our Royal Family for very long, but she had found her way into the innermost hearts of the people of this country. Sir Arthur expressed to Her Royal Highness the deep gratitude of the authorities, and the students, for the honour she had done them by her presence.

ADDRESSES.

By Miss Daisy Bridges.

The Chairman then called on Miss Daisy Bridges, S.R.N., a Sister at St. Thomas's Hospital, to address those present.

Miss Bridges said that to address the International Students at this farewell gathering was both an honour and a privilege. She would not have the courage to speak at all before such a distinguished audience, did she not know that what she said would be accepted in the spirit in which it was meant, which was one of humility, of sincerity and good comradeship, and that she spoke not only for herself, but on behalf of great numbers of British nurses who would follow closely the record of the future achievements of the students and who wished them well.

Addressing the students, Miss Bridges said that in

these days of unrest here, and of conflict in many countries of the world, it might seem a far-off cry even to speak of peace, and yet she dared to think that peace, should it come, might come to the world through its nurses. If our influence could be made far-reaching enough, if our faith were great enough, she did not think that an impossible ideal.

"You are going back," she said, "to your countries, to your hospitals, to whatever your nursing sphere may be, to attack big problems. But if your problems are great, and although a measure of success may be denied you, it is a well-known and encouraging fact that each successive attempt at solving a problem makes that problem easier of solution, and, through your work and hard-won experiences, those who come after will stand a better chance.

"And as it has more than once happened in the history of a country, so it may happen in the history of nursing, that the very magnitude of the difficulty you may meet will provide the inspiration needed to surmount it.

"We thank you for the contribution that each one of you has made to British nursing, by your belief in it, and by your spirit of friendship, of receptiveness and co-operation, and from our hearts we wish you God speed!"

By Miss G. E. M. Jebb, M.A. (Cantab.).

The Chairman then invited Miss Jebb to address the meeting, saying that he need not introduce to this assembly at Bedford College their much-honoured and beloved Principal, Miss Jebb.

Miss Jebb said that it was always her very pleasant task on these occasions to welcome the distinguished company. A special lustre was added to this occasion by the presence of Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, and she had great pleasure in giving her a special welcome. She then welcomed individually Sir Arthur Stanley, saying that this particular party would lose its flavour without him, Mr. Eason, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of London, Sir Ernest Graham Little, member of the Senate and Member of Parliament, members of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation, and of the Organisation Committee of Bedford College. The parent school was represented in the person of Mr. Swift, and the International Council of Nurses by its founder, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, the Florence Nightingale International Foundation was represented by Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, the College of Nursing by Miss D. S. Coode, and Bedford College by many of its teachers.

Then as to the group of students, there were twelve from Great Britain and the British Dominions and six from foreign countries. That was a pretty international collection, but not quite so international as it had sometimes been. It was rather a higher percentage than usual of English-speaking nurses. We did not want fewer of the latter, but we did want more from foreign countries.

Miss Jebb stated that another feature of the Course was that a much larger number of students were taking that for Nurse Administrators than for Public Health, the original Course, and one had carved out a place for herself and taken a Special Course, writing a thesis on the History of Nursing.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE THANKSGIVING DAY

The full Scholarship awarded annually by the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain has been most generously over-subscribed for 1936-1937, in response to the Florence Nightingale Thanksgiving Day Appeal, and a cheque for £250 has been forwarded to the Treasurer of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	228	12	11
The College of Nursing (mainly subscribed by Student Nurses' Associations on Thanksgiving Day), sent by Miss Coode, President	35	17	6
Glasgow Mental Hospital Staff	20	0	0
Miss M. Lamb (Bath)	1	0	0
	£285	10	5

Last year the National Council subscribed £300, adding £50 to the Maintenance Fund of the Foundation, in addition to the £250 for the Scholarship.

We hope the Executive Committee when it meets may again decide to make a grant from the surplus subscribed, as until the Endowment Fund is more generously supported by the public, current expenses need support.

Miss M. P. Welch, the Scholar selected for the forthcoming session, will enter Florence Nightingale International House in August, with the good wishes of her colleagues for a successful and happy year's work.

The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain has thus financed seven students since 1933 at the cost of £1,800. A most generous response to our appeals.

EXPERIENCES OF AN ENGLISH SISTER OF MERCY IN THE CRIMEA.

Yesterday and To-day.

... The apartment in the building allotted to us was lofty, of moderate dimensions, containing in the only two sides having an outer wall, ten large double windows. After the manner of Turkish dwellings, a raised dais, about one yard and a half wide and two feet high, extending down one side of the room, and like the floor, was covered with a fine description of matting. In a few hours, our eight mattresses, with our blankets and counterpanes, were brought from the store: the beds covered the floor when spread down, but by day they were folded up, forming a comfortable seat. Three black leather boxes served for tables, while the recesses of the windows were converted into cupboards. As soon as we could procure a broom, which was not until several days had passed, we swept our apartment, making it look quite fresh and tidy; it was but a Turkish broom, by the way, and resembled an English besom, there being but one real brush in use amongst the staff, the guardian of which was faithful to her trust, keeping it at her bed's head, and refusing to lend it upon any terms. Our dinner and tea service consisted of a metal basin for each person, which held about a pint. Out of this we first ate our meat and vegetables, and then after wiping it as clean as paper could make it we returned for our allowance of porter; we also washed our faces in this hard-worked copper basin. Two knives, two spoons, and three forks did duty at dinner of eight ladies.

At the one fountain in our corridor could be seen standing, at any time of the day, many persons waiting their turn to draw water; the quantity which fell to the share of each, with one or two exceptions, even including tea, did not average a pint a day.

there is often active delirium and prostration. Urgent, treatment is necessary to save life.

Chorea is a disease which needs unremitting and skilled nursing during the illness, and a long convalescence in favourable surroundings, for complete cure.

HONOURABLE MENTION.

The following competitors receive honourable mention: Miss Winifred Moss, The County Hospital, Bedford, and Miss V. Cordinley, General Hospital, Grantham.

QUESTION FOR NEXT MONTH.

Describe the varieties of nephritis, their treatment and nursing care.

THE OFFICIAL APPEAL FOR CONGRESS FUNDS.

RESPONSE PERFECTLY SPLENDID.

In response to the Official Appeal for funds in support of the Congress arrangements for 1937, we beg to acknowledge the following generous subscriptions, a splendid response:—

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	242	5	0
The London Hospital League of Nurses ...	150	0	0
The Nightingale Fellowship	50	0	0
(Making £100 with £50 advanced.)			
The Scottish Matrons' Association ...	25	0	0
County Mental Hospital Nurses' League (Maidstone)	10	10	0
General Hospital, Birmingham, Nurses' League	10	10	0
Leicester Royal Infirmary Nurses' League	7	0	0
Mrs. John Temple	5	5	0
Bristol Royal Infirmary Nurses' League	5	5	0
League of Nurses, Royal Infirmary, Sheffield	5	0	0
Victoria and Bournemouth Nurses' League	5	0	0
Rev. G. Berens-Dowdeswell	3	3	0
Miss Amy B. Curtis... ..	2	5	0
Mrs. G. Berens-Dowdeswell	2	2	0
Miss A. M. Bushby	2	2	0
Miss A. B. Baillie R.R.C.	2	2	0
	£527	9	0

DONATIONS PROMISED.

Already acknowledged	110	0	0
The London Hospital League of Nurses ...	50	0	0
The Scottish Nurses' Association	25	0	0
L.C.C. School Nurses' Social Union ...	5	5	0
	£190	5	0

Thus £717 14s. of the £1,000 required is already assured, and we learn of many gifts coming along. One fact we all realise, that from the time the nurses of Great Britain assumed the responsibility of acting as the hostesses of the great International Congress in 1937, they meant to see it through, as their colleagues in other countries have done, on a thoroughly generous scale.

It is not, however, only financial support we need to make the Congress a success, but the interest, kind good will and service of the whole community of nurses throughout Great Britain. A great opportunity is theirs. Those of us with psychic appreciation realise that they are already quietly converging towards the International Congress goal.

NGDA
National
been most
response to
appeal, and
Treasurer
Foundation.

She said further that the value of these Courses to an academic person like herself was that the students gained something in addition to professional knowledge. They saw things from a different aspect. She felt a great interest in the Course because of its broad educational advantage.

There had been a very interesting development this year. It had been possible hitherto to arrange for students on their way back to their countries to see something of the Nursing Services in the countries through which they passed. That had been done this year on a more extensive scale. Special arrangements had been carefully planned by the administration at Manchester Square for Continental visits, and various students visited the Scandinavian countries, Latvia,

COURSE FOR NURSE ADMINISTRATORS AND TEACHERS IN SCHOOLS OF NURSING.

MISS M. W. ASTLEY will return to her post as Sister-Tutor in Auckland, New Zealand.

MISS S. C. BOVILL has just been appointed Assistant Matron, Manchester Royal Infirmary.

MISS K. BRATT (Distinction in Psychology) has been appointed Sister-Tutor at Sahljren's General Hospital, Gothenburg, Sweden.

MISS Y. HENTSCH expects to return to her own hospital in Lausanne in an administrative capacity.

MISS G. HOLDEN will return to her post in the Zenana Bible and Medical School, Canada Hospital, Nasik, Bombay Presidency, India.

MISS K. LAURINAVICIUTE is returning to the Lithuanian Red Cross in an administrative capacity.



HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUCHESS OF KENT

With the Nightingale International Students to whom she presented Certificates at Bedford College.

Poland, Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, and Jugoslavia; while the students from the Western World travelled in Europe, the others were seeing health nursing in Scotland.

Miss Jebb concluded by stating that she had been informed by the teachers that the standard attained by the students of the 1935—1936 session had been a high one. She wished all the students very successful careers and every prosperity in the work which lies before them.

Presentation of Certificates by the Duchess of Kent.

Sir Arthur Stanley then invited the Duchess of Kent to present the Certificates, and Miss Jebb announced the name of each as she appeared before the Duchess, and briefly stated the work she hoped to take up.

MISS J. MANUEL is returning to her post of Matron of the King Edward Hospital in Indore, C.I., India.

MISS A. C. NEILL is returning to a post of Supervisor at the Toronto General Hospital.

MISS I. I. POHJALA has been appointed Director of the State Central Preliminary School of Nursing, Helsingfors, Finland.

MISS M. REYNOLDS will later hold post of Matron. MISS K. SCRYMGOUR returns to the Staff of the Adelaide Hospital, South Australia.

MISS G. J. SHARPE (Distinction in Hospital Administration and Hygiene) returns to her post of Science Instructor, Toronto Western Hospital.

MISS J. G. THOMPSON (Distinction in the whole Course) is working for the Diploma of Nursing and will do temporary work at the University College Hospital.

MISS K. WHITSED returns as Ward Sister to the Leicester Royal Infirmary.

COURSE IN PUBLIC HEALTH.

MISS I. M. ABELGAS has been appointed Supervisor of Public Health Nurses under the Philippine Chapter of the American Red Cross.

MISS E. R. BRIDGES (Distinction in Psychology and Hygiene) has been appointed Assistant Nurse Instructor in the Post-graduate School in Wellington, New Zealand.

MISS M. E. FLAMBERT (Distinction in Hygiene) is working for the Health Visitors' Examination and will take up Health Visiting in the autumn.

SPECIAL STUDY.

MISS V. DUNBAR returns to her position of Assistant Director of the School of Nursing University of California, San Francisco.

The Chairman then called on Dr. Eason to address the meeting.

Address of Dr. Eason.

Dr. Eason said that he understood he was expected to address the International Students, and he was going to address them and nobody else. His message would be short. It would be in four words, and four words only, but he hesitated to say them in the presence of Sir Arthur Stanley and Dame Alicia Lloyd Still. They were:

Florence Nightingale is dead.

He wished to say that magnificent as the career of Florence Nightingale was they must never allow themselves to be strangled and throttled by tradition.

A friend of his present that afternoon said once: "If Florence Nightingale was the Lady of the Lamp she was also a lady with a lash." If she were here now she would lash as unsparingly as she lashed in the Crimea. Florence Nightingale was an individual, and the whole essence of progress was personality and individualism.

They should always work for what they knew to be necessary without having any regard to those persons who say, "Because this is so it ought to remain so."

Dr. Eason associated himself with the good wishes expressed for the success of the work of the students on their return to their own countries.

Sir Arthur Stanley said he was rather under the impression that, as Chairman, he ought to have called Dr. Eason to order many times for his revolutionary remarks.

Votes of Thanks.

Votes of thanks were then proposed to H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent, Sir Arthur Stanley, Miss Jebb and the Speakers, by Miss I. M. Abelgas (Philippine Islands) and Miss J. G. Thompson (Great Britain) and were responded to by Dr. Eason.

By invitation of Miss Jebb the company then adjourned to the Oliver Hall, where tea was served, the Duchess taking tea with the Committee, and specially invited guests, at the high table.

THE "OLD INTERNATIONALS" ANNUAL DINNER.

After the ceremonies at Bedford College the "Old Internationals Association" held their Annual Dinner at the Cowdray Club.

Miss Lucy Ottley was in the Chair, surrounded by a merry company, and the speeches were as usual of a very amusing quality.

After dinner came farewells, and with them thanks for a happy as well as instructive time in England.

NURSING ECHOES.

Two city churches are likely to attract congregations from beyond the borders of their own parishes, and one indeed has already done so, the Church of St. Lawrence, Jewry-next-Guildhall, the official church of Guildhall and Corporation, of which the Rector is the Rev. A. Lombardini, for 23 years Chaplain of St. Mary Abbot's Hospital, Kensington. Knowing the needs of nurses Mr. Lombardini has set apart an adjoining room for the use of nurses of the London Hospitals, where Miss S. A. Alsop, formerly Matron of St. Mary Abbot's Hospital, acts as hostess, more especially on Sunday evening, when after the service in the church the nurses foregather and are welcomed and entertained.

Recently Her Majesty Queen Mary visited the room and expressed warm approval of its homely and comfortable character.

Now we learn that the Rev. H. Ross, Chaplain-General of the Guild of St. Barnabas for Nurses, has been nominated by the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's to the benefice of St. Augustine-with-St. Faith, Watling Street, on the recommendation of the Bishop of London, a Patron of the Guild, and we may be sure that many of the 7,000 members of the Guild scattered throughout the world will find their way, as occasion offers, to this quiet city church.

The "At Home" of the Nightingale Training School at St. Thomas's Hospital was held on June 30th in the garden, with its lovely vista over the river, and the weather held up, so that tea with attendant delicacies was enjoyed by a crowded gathering of "Nightingales" and their friends, received by Dame Alicia Lloyd Still. The corridors were decorated with a mass of lovely flowers, and statuettes of Miss Florence Nightingale were appropriately grouped amidst them. A good band added to the gaiety.

We were glad to note how eagerly many present made enquiries about the forthcoming I.C.N. Congress in 1937—especially ladies from the Dominions—and everyone we spoke to evidently intended to attend and help welcome visitors and make it a real success.

Before the Garden Party, prizes in connection with the 1935-36 Session at St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School were distributed by the Lord Mayor, Sir Percy Vincent, in the Governors' Hall, when Sir Arthur Stanley, Treasurer, said of recent work in connection with the hospital that the Riddell House, given to the hospital by Lady Riddell out of a legacy from her husband, Lord Riddell, would, he hoped, be completed by the end of the year. It would, when occupied, provide the opportunity of improving St. Thomas's Home for paying patients, which it was essential should be brought up to date and enlarged. In connection with the Home for the student nurses of St. Thomas's Babies' Hostel, the task of raising the amount required had been undertaken by Lady Laurie, and a pound day organised at the hostel had realised £535.

On Sunday, May 10th, a "Nurses' Sunday," organised by the Nurses' Christian Movement was held in the Anglican Cathedral at Perth, Western Australia, when 200 members of the Nursing Profession, the St. John's